(b) if so, the decision taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SH1NDE): (a) and (b) In August, 2005, Government of Bihar had requested for enhancing allocation of power from NTPC stations in the Eastern Region (ER) from the prevailing level of 960 MW to at least 1250 MW. The allocation from NTPC stations in ER were reviewed and allocation of Bihar was enhanced to about 1019 MW *w.e.f.* 15th November, 2005.

Work on the Srinagar-Kargil-Leh transmission line

1854. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: SHRI HARISH RAWAT:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Power Grid Corporation of India propose to work on the Srinagar-Kargil-Leh transmission line; and

(b) if so, by when a decision in this regard would be taken and what would be the cost of the project?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) and (b) Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd. (PGCIL) prepared a Feasibility Report for construction of 220 KV transmission line from Srinagar (Alistong) to Leh *via* Drass, Kargil and Khalsti at an estimated cost of Rs. 633.79 crores (Second Quarter, 2004 Price level). However, no decision has been taken to execute this project.

Rural electrification programme in Bihar

1856. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: SHRI R.K. ANAND:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that vast majority of rural population still has no access to electricity and is dependent on kerosene lamps and lanterns;

(b) if so, the schemes formulated for electrification of 25000 remote villages/hamlets;

(c) the reasons for not electrifying a single remote village of Bihar under remote village electrification programme as on 30.11.2004;

(d) the list of 273 remote villages of Bihar identified for electrification under remote village electrification programme, district-wise; and